

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/617,549

Applicant(s)

FOOTE ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Melur Ramakrishnaiah

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6-7-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 43-44, 46, 47-66 now renumbered 1-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 11-17-2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Melur Ramakrishnaiah
MELUR RAMAKRISHNAIAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the present invention relates to video teleconferencing and transmission of audio, video, and commands between locations separated by distance.

The prior art of record in combination or alone fails to teach or suggest these elements of the independent claims 43 and 47 in combination with other elements. For example independent claim 43 has limitations such as screen adapted to display a subject, the screen having a posture controllable by the subject, a camera adjacent to the screen and trainable on a desired location, the camera allowing the subject to view the desired location, a base, a frame including: a platform rotatably mounted to the base, a trunk pivotably mounted to the platform, a neck pivotably mounted to the trunk, an extension motor mounted to the platform and adapted to pivot the trunk to the platform, and a pivot motor mounted to the platform and adapted to pivot the neck relative to the trunk, wherein the screen is connected to the neck. Independent claim 47 has limitations such as a base, a frame including: a platform rotatably mounted to the base, a trunk pivotably mounted to the platform, a neck pivotably mounted to the trunk, a display screen mounted with the neck and adapted to display a subject, a camera adjacent to the display screen and trainable on a desired location, the camera allowing the subject to view the desired location, and a remote terminal accessible to the subject, wherein the movement of the platform, the trunk, and the neck is controllable by the subject by way of the remote control. For the above reasons independent claims 43, 47 and dependent claims 44, 46, 48-66 are allowable.

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2. Claims 43-44, 46, 47-66 (now renumbered 1-23) are allowed.
3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

--(6,208,505) to Kuchta discloses the following: in a computer, keyboard and flat-screen monitor support assembly a base is adapted to support a desktop type computer housing thereon.

--(2004/0011938A1) to Oddsen, Jr. discloses an apparatus for a plurality of electronic devices which is adapted for positioning electronic devices in plurality of orientations.

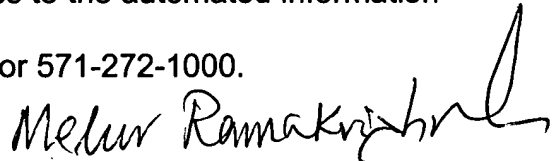
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melur Ramakrishnaiah whose telephone number is (571)272-8098. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 Hr schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curt Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Melur Ramakrishnaiah
Primary Examiner
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